

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Rumania
SUBJECT Measures taken by Rumanian Government for Civil Defense

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REFERENCES

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Atomic warfare [redacted] was never discussed at the Rumanian Ministry of Health [redacted]

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Bacteriological warfare - In November, 1952 the Ministry of Health was entrusted by the Rumanian Government and the Communist Party of Rumania with the task of drawing up a report within three months of the measures that would be necessary in case of a bacteriological attack. [redacted]

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Chemical warfare - [redacted]
[redacted] It is possible [redacted] that the subject was being studied by the Ministry of Defense.

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25X1 [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

The Rumanian Red Cross plays no part in the discussion or preparation of these measures.

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25X1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] no gas mask had been developed for use against bacteriological warfare. As far as chemical warfare is concerned, this would be rather a matter for the Ministry of Defense; it is possible that they have developed such a mask without the knowledge of the Ministry of Health, who were never consulted on the matter.

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The only gas-mask [REDACTED] was the ordinary type which was used during World War II. There may be plans for obtaining masks from the USSR, in case of emergency.

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25X1 [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the Rumanian Army had and still has its own system of blood storage, which is efficient; it functioned extremely well during World War II. [REDACTED] the Ministry of Health obtained its supplies of blood and tissue from the Army, which had a sufficient surplus to meet the former's needs. In 1950 the Ministry of Health was instructed to organize its own system for the collection and storage of blood; at the same time an unofficial propaganda campaign was started, exhorting the population to donate blood free of charge for their comrades and contrasting this method with that in the capitalist countries where blood donors receive payment.

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By the end of 1952 the Ministry of Health had set up one blood bank in each region (Regiune) of Rumania [REDACTED] there are now 28 regions); in addition, there were centers in some of the more important industrial districts (Raion) such as:

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- 3 - [REDACTED]

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Baia Mare (chemical industry)
 Resita (steel industry)
 Valea Jiului (coal industry)
 Comanesti (coal industry)

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A five-year plan (presumably started in 1950) provides for the setting-up of blood banks in all the districts of Rumania - altogether about 100 in number.

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[REDACTED] all hospitals in Rumania were supplied with blood plasma in quantities sufficient to meet peace-time requirements. It was distributed mostly by air from the main storage centers. However, [REDACTED] the storage facilities, such as refrigerators which had been ordered from the USSR, were far from perfect, as a result of which some of the plasma was not in the best condition. For instance, late in 1952 Dr. Ilie Lazarovici, who was in charge of the department of the Ministry of Health dealing with blood storage, was arrested on a charge of being responsible for the death of five children in the Panduri Hospital of Bucharest. Their death was allegedly caused by the infected state of the blood plasma used on them. [REDACTED] the charges were true and [REDACTED] there was no political significance in the arrest.

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Principal research in virus diseases is carried out at the Institute of Virology and at the Microbiological Institute, Bucharest. Director of the former is a certain Levaditi, and of the latter Professor Stefan Nicolau. [REDACTED]

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Principal research in Rickettsial diseases is carried out at the Cantacuzino Institute, and is in the charge of Professor Combiescu, a well-known figure in the medical world. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] stockpiles, military or civilian, of antibiotics, whole blood, blood plasma, sulfa drugs, special antisera or vaccines.

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[REDACTED] are held by the Commission of Reserves (Comisia de Reserve) which is attached to the Council of Ministers (Consiliul de Ministri a Statului), in the same way as stocks of industrial materials such as oil, steel, flour, etc. Medical supplies were under the control of a certain Dr. Gluck [REDACTED]

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Antibiotics)
Sulfa drugs) quantities probably less than
planned for.

DDT very small, as practically all imports
of Nitrozan were needed by the Ministry
of Health. In 1952 the Ministry of Health
ordered about 20 metric tons of DDT for
its own use; on arrival, however, it was
requisitioned by the Commission of Reserves.

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Vaccines probably ample. The Ministry of Health never
had any difficulty in obtaining its require-
ments from the Cantacuzino Institute.

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25X1 fully-trained medical doctors in Rumania

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About 12,000. Some 70 percent of them are in urban centers (i.e. places
with over 20,000 inhabitants). There are about 3,500 doctors in Bucharest.

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The number of other medical personnel, such as nurses and assistant
doctors is insufficient. The poor pay and working conditions offered
do not attract people.

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No plans exist for increasing the number of trained doctors, but they
do for auxiliary medical personnel.

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Civil Defense

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Bacteriological warfare - Not included in civil defense training.

Chemical warfare - Is included in civil defense training; it consists
chiefly of the recognition of gases and first aid measures to cope with
attacks.

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The attitude of the Government and the Party was not clearly defined.
the upper circles of both envisaged the
possibility of attacks in wartime. For that reason the Ministry of
Health had received instructions to prepare a report on the problem
of defense, with special reference to:

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1. effects of such an attack,
2. possibility of epidemics,
3. ability of Ministry of Health to take
counter-measures.

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No special immunization plan has been drawn up. Vaccination is, however, more or less compulsory now for civilians and servicemen against typhoid fever, tetanus and smallpox.

There is a great shortage of equipment and facilities for the distribution of medical supplies, as well as a shortage of auxiliary medical personnel to cope with a disaster.

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All stocks, which are under the control of the Commission of Reserves are held outside large towns and cities, mainly in forested mountainous areas such as the Fagaras district of Transylvania. It is possible, however, that a few stocks are held in or on the outskirts of small towns.

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Bacteriological Warfare - Chemical Warfare

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No plans exist for the manufacture of bacteriological warfare munitions or weapons. [] it would be almost impossible, as most of the competent Rumanian scientists are anti-regime and would not be trusted sufficiently by the Government.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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(Note: [REDACTED] chemical warfare [REDACTED] would come within the sphere
of the Ministry of Defense, not the Ministry of Health [REDACTED])

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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